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6. (Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said expression level of the BAG gene is determined by measuring the amount of the BAG mRNA transcript or BAG protein.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said level of expression of the BAG gene is determined prior to lymph node involvement of said cancer.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said level of expression of the BAG gene is determined after lymph node involvement of said cancer.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said level of expression of the BAG gene is determined during Stage I or Stage II of said cancer.

44. (Twice amended) A method for determining a prognosis in a patient suffering from cancer, said method comprising:

(a) determining the level of expression of BAG in cancerous tissues of a patient; and

(b) classifying said patient as belonging either to a first group of patients having high levels of expression of BAG, or a second group of patients having low levels of expression of BAG,

wherein said first group has a lower likelihood of tumor recurrence or spread than said second group, and wherein said cancer is breast cancer.